

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 06149 151435Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

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S E C R E T USNATO 6149

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: USNATO 6142

THERE FOLLOWS INFORMAL MISSION TRANSLATION OF KEY ACTION ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY SYG LUNS IN HIS SUMMING UP IN FRENCH OF THE DECEMBER 1973 MINISTERIAL. THESE RELATE TO FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS ON ATLANTIC RELATIONS AND ALLIANCE CONSULTATION, WHICH ARE ALSO IDENTIFIED IN PARAS I AND II OF LUNS' PO ON FOLLOW-UP ACTION (SEE REF A TEXT).

BEGIN TEXT:

"... THE DECLARATION ON ATLANTIC RELATIONS TO WHICH THE COUNCIL HAS DEVOTED SUSTAINED EFFORT RECENTLY IS OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE IN THIS RESPECT.

MINISTERS ARE COUNTING ON THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR BRINGING THESE EFFORTS TO A RAPID CONCLUSION.

THIS DECLARATION, ACCORDING TO THE REMARKS MADE BY MINISTERS, COULD BE PUBLISHED NEXT YEAR, WHEN WE WILL BE CELEBRATING OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY AND WHEN WE ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MR. NIXON;

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 06149 151435Z

THESE TWO OCCASIONS, IN THE VIEW OF MINISTERS, COULD BE COMBINED, AND WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO INSURE THAT THEY COINCIDE WITH THE EXACT DATE OF THE 25 YEARS, THAT IS TO SAY, NEXT APRIL 4.

ALL HAVE SEEN IN THE GROWING UNITY OF THE NINE AN ELEMENT FAVORABLE TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ALLIANCE. AT THE SAME TIME, I AM SURE THAT MR. SCHEEL HAS EXPRESSED THE THOUGHTS OF MANY OF US WHEN HE DECLARED THAT THE RELATIONS AMONG THE NINE AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT BE ENDOWED WITH AN EXCLUSIVE CHARACTER, AND WOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN AT THE EXPENSE OF THE ALLIANCE. FURTHERMORE, MR. MORO AND OTHERES HAVE SAID THAT EUROPEAN UNITY WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED IN CONFORMITY, IN ACCORD, AND IN COOPERATION WITH THE ALLIANCE AND ITS SOLIDARITY.

AGAIN IN THE CONTEXT OF ATLANTIC RELATIONS, ALL SIDES UNDERLINED THE NECESSITY OF IMPROVING CONSULTATION, BOTH WITH RESPECT TO PROCEDURE AS WELL AS SUBSTANCE. SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE ON THIS SUBJECT. THUS, SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME PROPOSED THAT, WITH RESPECT TO AREAS BEYOND THE ALLIANCE, THE ALLIANCE ELABORATE AND MAINTAIN CURRENT EVALUATIONS (SIC) WHICH COULD REQUIRE OF IT REACTIONS OF A POLITICAL AND MILITARY NATURE. FOR HIS PART, MR. VAN ELSANDE, DEVELOPED THIS IDEA FURTHER. MR. KISSINGER SUGGESTED THAT THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE ALLIANCE SHOULD MEET BEFORE, AND PERHAPS AFTER, EACH MINISTERIAL MEETING, AND AT REGULAR INTERVALS. THIS SUGGESTION WAS WELL RECEIVED BY HIS COLLEAGUES. I ALSO TAKE NOTE OF THE AMERICAN SUGGESTION ACCORDING TO WHICH WE SHOULD EXAMINE TOGETHER THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS, AND I HAVE NOTED ON THIS SUBJECT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO MAKE IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITH RESPECT TO THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM ASPECTS OF THIS QUESTION. THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD STUDY THESE IDEAS AND FORMULATE AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. THEY WERE ALSO INVITED TO STUDY HOW WE COULD IMPROVE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, AND MR. ANDERSEN HAS JUST PROVIDED US ON THIS SUBJECT WITH IMPORTANT REFLECTIONS. . . ." END TEXT. RUMSFELD

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